

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A video data transmission/reception system comprising a transmission-side apparatus and a plurality of reception terminals, the transmission-side apparatus transmitting video data that has been compressed using motion compensation interframe prediction, and the reception terminals receiving the video data and decoding the received video data, wherein

the transmission-side apparatus includes:

a first encoding unit ~~operable to apply intraframe encoding processing or~~ applying interframe encoding processing to ~~each of~~ a plurality of frames of moving image data, to generate only interframe frame data for the video data;

a second encoding unit ~~operable to apply,~~ applying in parallel with the encoding processing by the first encoding unit, intraframe encoding processing to a frame of the moving image data, to generate substitute I frame data for the video data;

an encoded video data generation unit connected to the first encoding unit and the second encoding unit to combine the substitute I frame data and the interframe frame data to form the video data; and

a transmission unit ~~operable to transmit~~ transmitting the video data and the substitute I frame data to the plurality of reception terminals,

wherein when the transmission unit is to resume transmission of the video data to one of the reception terminals after temporarily interrupting transmission of the video data to the reception terminal, the transmission unit transmits at least one frame's worth of the substitute I frame data to the reception terminal before resuming transmission of the video data, and

the reception terminal, when the transmission unit is to resume the temporarily interrupted transmission of the video data, receives the transmitted substitute I frame data, decodes the received substitute I frame data, and uses the decoded substitute I frame data as reference frame data to decode video data that is received after resumption of transmission.

2. (Currently Amended) A video data transmission apparatus that transmits video data that has been compressed using motion compensation interframe prediction to a plurality of reception terminals, comprising:

a first encoding unit ~~operable to apply intraframe encoding processing or~~ applying interframe encoding processing to each of a plurality of frames of moving image data, to generate only interframe frame data for the video data;

a second encoding unit ~~operable to apply,~~ applying in parallel with the encoding processing by the first encoding unit, intraframe encoding processing to a frame of the moving image data, to generate substitute I frame data for the video data;

an encoded video data generation unit connected to the first encoding unit and the second encoding unit to combine the substitute I frame data and the interframe frame data to form the video data; and

a transmission unit ~~a transmission unit operable to transmit~~ transmitting the video data and the substitute I frame data to the plurality of reception terminals, and when the transmission unit is to resume transmission of the video data to one of the reception terminals after temporarily interrupting transmission of the video data to the reception terminal, the transmission unit transmits at least one frame's worth of the substitute I frame data to the reception terminal before resuming transmission of the video data.

3. (Currently Amended) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 2, further comprising:

an option data transmission unit ~~operable to transmit~~ transmitting option video data to the reception terminal, in parallel with the transmission of the video data,

wherein the interruption of video data transmission to the reception terminal is caused by the transmission of the option video data.

4. (Currently Amended) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 3, wherein the option data transmission unit

includes an information collection sub-unit ~~operable to collect,~~ collecting from each of one or more of the reception terminals, information about preferences of a user of the reception terminal, and

based on the collected information, selects contents of option data to be transmitted.

5. (Currently Amended) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 3, wherein the transmission unit includes

a broadcast transmission sub-unit ~~operable to broadcast~~ broadcasting a same data to a plurality of transmission destinations; and

an individual transmission sub-unit ~~operable to transmit~~ transmitting individual data to an individual transmission destination, [[and]]

uses wherein the broadcast transmission sub-unit ~~to transmit~~ transmits the video data, and the individual transmission sub-unit ~~to transmit~~ transmits the substitute I frame data, and

the option data transmission unit transmits the option video data in an individual transmission manner.

6. (Currently) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 5, wherein the transmission unit includes

a switch sub-unit ~~operable to exempt~~ exempting a reception terminal to which substitute I frame data or option video data is being transmitted from being a target of transmission of the video data by the broadcast transmission sub-unit.

7. (Currently Amended) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 3, wherein the option data transmission unit includes

an insertion sub-unit ~~operable to transmit~~ transmitting secondary option data part way through transmission of the option data; and

a third encoding sub-unit ~~operable, after transmission of the secondary option data ends and before transmission of the option data resumes, to generate~~ generating option data substitute I frame data that corresponds to at least one frame of the option data starting from a frame that is a first frame after transmission resumption, after transmission of the secondary option data ends and before transmission of the option data resumes,

wherein when transmission of the option data is to resume after the transmission of the secondary option data ends, the option data transmission unit transmits the option data substitute I frame data to the reception terminal before transmission of the option data resumes.

8. (Original) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the first encoding unit and the second encoding unit are realized in separate encoders.

9. (Original) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 2, wherein

the transmission unit determines how many frames of substitute I frame data to transmit to the reception terminal before resuming transmission of the video data, based on a GOP structure of the video data, and in particular, based on a frequency of appearance of frames having an I attribute or a P attribute.

10. (Currently Amended) A video data transmission apparatus that transmits video data that has been compressed using motion compensation interframe prediction to a plurality of reception terminals, comprising:

a first encoding unit ~~operable to apply~~ applying intraframe encoding processing to a frame of moving image data, to generate intraframe encoded video data;

a second encoding unit ~~operable to apply~~ applying interframe encoding processing to a frame of moving image data, to generate interframe encoded video data;

a video data generation unit ~~operable to generate~~ generating the video data from the intraframe encoded video data and the interframe encoded video data; and

a transmission unit ~~operable to transmit~~ transmitting the video data to the plurality of reception apparatuses,

wherein when the transmission unit is to resume transmission of the video data to one of the reception terminals after temporarily interrupting transmission of the video data to the reception terminal, the transmission unit transmits at least one frame's worth of the intraframe encoded video data to the reception terminal as substitute I frame data before resuming transmission of the video data.

11. (Currently Amended) A video data transmission/reception system comprising a plurality of video data provision apparatuses, a plurality of reception terminals, and a distribution server, the video data provision apparatuses transmitting video data that has been compressed using motion compensation interframe prediction, each reception terminal receiving the video data from any one of the video data provision apparatuses and decoding the received video data, and the distribution server conveying the video data between the video data provision apparatuses and the reception terminals, wherein

each video data provision apparatus includes:

a first encoding unit ~~operable to apply intraframe encoding processing or~~ applying interframe encoding processing to each of a plurality of frames of moving image data, to generate only interframe frame data for the video data; and

a second encoding unit ~~operable to apply,~~ applying in parallel with the encoding processing by the first encoding unit, intraframe encoding processing to each of a plurality of frames of the moving image data, to generate substitute I frame data;[[,]] and

an encoded video data generation unit connected to the first encoding unit and the second encoding unit to combine the substitute I frame data and the interframe frame data to form the video data, and

the distribution server includes:

a switch request reception unit operable to receive a request from one of the reception terminals to switch video data received by the reception terminal to different video data; and

a switch transmission unit ~~operable, on the switch request reception unit receiving the request, to stop~~ stopping transmission of the video data being transmitted to the request-originating user terminal, ~~obtain~~ obtaining substitute I frame data from a video data provision apparatus that is to provide the different video data, ~~transmit~~ transmitting the obtained substitute I frame data to the user terminal, and ~~transmit~~ transmitting the different video data to the user terminal, when the switch request reception unit receives the request from one of the reception terminals.

12. (Currently Amended) A distribution server in a video data transmission/reception system that further includes a plurality of video data provision apparatuses and a plurality of reception terminals, the video data provision apparatuses transmitting video data that has been compressed using motion compensation interframe prediction, each reception terminal receiving video data from any one of the video data provision apparatuses, and the distribution server conveying the video data between the video data provision apparatuses and the reception terminals, the distribution server comprising:

a switch request reception unit ~~operable to receive~~ receiving a request from one of the reception terminals to switch video data received by the reception terminal to different video data; and

a switch transmission unit ~~operable, on the switch request reception unit receiving the request, to stop~~ stopping transmission of the video data being transmitted to the request-originating user terminal, ~~obtain~~ obtaining substitute I frame data from a video data provision apparatus that is to provide the different video data, ~~transmit~~ transmitting the obtained substitute I frame data to the user terminal, and ~~transmit~~ transmitting the different video data to the user

terminal, when the switch request reception unit receives the request from one of the reception terminals .

13. (Currently Amended) A video data provision apparatus in a video data transmission/reception system that includes a plurality of video data provision apparatuses, a plurality of reception terminals, and a distribution server, the video data provision apparatuses transmitting video data that has been compressed using motion compensation interframe prediction, each reception terminal receiving video data from any one of the video data provision apparatuses, and the distribution server conveying the video data between the video data provision apparatuses and the reception terminals, the video data provision apparatus comprising:

a first encoding unit ~~operable to apply intraframe encoding processing or~~ applying interframe encoding processing to each of a plurality of frames of moving image data, to generate only interframe frame data for the video data;

a second encoding unit ~~operable to apply,~~ applying in parallel with the encoding processing by the first encoding unit, intraframe encoding processing to each of a plurality of frames of the moving image data, to generate substitute I frame data;

an encoded video data generation unit connected to the first encoding unit and the second encoding unit to combine the substitute I frame data and the interframe frame data to form the video data; and

a transmission unit ~~operable to transmit~~ transmitting the video data to the distribution server, and, when one of the reception terminals requests to switch video data being



received to the video data being transmitted by the transmission unit, transmit at least one frame of substitute I frame data to the reception terminal via the distribution server, before the switch.

14. (Currently Amended) An encoder that compresses moving image data using motion compensation interframe prediction, comprising:

a first encoding unit ~~operable to apply intraframe encoding processing or~~ applying interframe encoding processing to each of a plurality of frames of moving image data, to generate only interframe frame data for the video data; and

a second encoding unit ~~operable to apply,~~ applying in parallel with the encoding processing by the first encoding unit, intraframe encoding processing to each of a plurality of frames of the moving image data, to generate substitute I frame data; and

an encoded video data generation unit connected to the first encoding unit and the second encoding unit to combine the substitute I frame data and the interframe frame data to form the video data.

15. (Currently Amended) An encoder that compresses moving image data using motion compensation interframe prediction, comprising:

a first encoding unit ~~operable to apply~~ applying intraframe encoding processing to a frame of moving image data, to generate intraframe encoded video data;

a second encoding unit ~~operable to apply~~ applying interframe encoding processing to a frame of moving image data, to generate interframe encoded video data;

an encoded video data generation unit ~~operable to generate~~ generating encoded video data from the intraframe encoded video data and the interframe encoded video data; and

a substitute data generation unit ~~operable to generate~~ generating substitute I frame data from the intraframe encoded video data.

16. (Currently Amended) A video data transmission/reception method used by a transmission-side apparatus and one of a plurality of reception terminals in a video data transmission/reception system in which the transmission-side apparatus that transmits video data that has been compressed using motion compensation interframe prediction, and the plurality of reception terminals receive the video data and decode the received video data, the method comprising:

a first encoding step, in the transmission-side apparatus, of applying ~~intraframe encoding processing or~~ interframe encoding processing to ~~each of~~ a plurality of frames of moving image data, to generate only interframe frame data for the video data;

a second encoding step, in the transmission-side apparatus, of applying, in parallel with the first encoding step, intraframe encoding processing to each of a plurality of frames of the moving image data, to generate substitute I frame data;

a combining step of combining I frame data and interframe frame data to generate the video data;

a video data transmission step, in the transmission-side apparatus, of transmitting the video data to a reception-side apparatus;

a transmission interruption step, in the transmission-side apparatus, of interrupting transmission of the video data to the reception-side apparatus;

a substitute data transmission step, in the transmission-side apparatus, of transmitting at least one frame's worth of the substitute I frame data to the reception terminal;

a substitute data decoding step, in the reception terminal, of decoding the substitute I frame data;

a video data retransmission step, in the transmission side apparatus, of resuming transmission of the video data to the reception terminal; and

a video data decoding step, in the reception terminal, of decoding the video data received after resumption of transmission, using data obtained as a result of executing the substitute data decoding step, as reference frame data.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium embodying a [[A]] program for having executed ~~executable~~ in a computer, the program causing the computer to perform a video data transmission method used by a transmission-side apparatus in a video data transmission/reception system in which the transmission-side apparatus that transmits video data that has been compressed using motion compensation interframe prediction, and a plurality of reception terminals receive the video data and decode the received video data, the method comprising:

a first encoding step of applying ~~intraframe encoding processing or~~ interframe encoding processing to ~~each of~~ a plurality of frames of moving image data, to generate the video data;

a second encoding step of applying, in parallel with the first encoding step, intraframe encoding processing to each of a plurality of frames of the moving image data, to generate substitute I frame data;

a combining step of combining I frame data and interframe frame data to generate the video data;

a video data transmission step of transmitting the video data to a reception-side apparatus;

a transmission interruption step of interrupting transmission of the video data to the reception-side apparatus;

a substitute data transmission step of transmitting at least one frame's worth of the substitute I frame data to the reception terminal; and

a video data retransmission step of resuming transmission of the video data to the reception terminal.

18. (New) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising a substitute I frame buffer connected to the second encoding unit and the transmission unit to store substitute I frame data, wherein the transmission unit transmits at least one frame's worth of the substitute I frame data to the reception terminal before resuming transmission of the video data using substitute I frame data stored in the substitute I frame buffer.

19. (New) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 2 further comprising means for storing substitute I frame data from the second encoding unit for transmission to the transmission unit.

20. (New) The video data transmission apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the interframe data comprise P frame data and B frame data.